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Economic and Social Council

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Resumed substantive session for 1999
16 December 1999
Agenda item 7 (a)
Coordination, programme and other questions: reports of coordination bodies

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the Council as a result of informal consultations

Joint Inspection Unit report on the review of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its machinery

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996 on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/55 of 30 July 1999,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Joint Inspection Unit report on the review of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its machinery and the comments thereon of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;[1]

2. *Notes* the measures under way to enhance the functioning of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its contribution to greater unity of purpose and programme coherence and impact within the United Nations system, and to reinforce, to that end, secretarial support to the Committee, through the Office for Inter-Agency Affairs, and invites the Committee to continue to improve its capacity for promoting inter-agency cooperation and complementarities within the United Nations system;

3. *Welcomes* in particular the recent initiatives taken by the Committee, under the leadership of the Secretary-General, to strengthen its interactions with intergovernmental bodies, particularly the Economic and Social Council, and invites the Committee to consider ways in which its members, individually and collectively, can maximize their support to the Council in the exercise of its responsibilities for system-wide guidance and coordination;

[1] A/54/288 and Add.1.

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4. *Reaffirms* in particular its appreciation for the efforts of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its standing machinery to assist the work of the Council and the functional and regional commissions, in particular in coordinating the follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, and encourages them and the United Nations system to pursue and deepen their efforts in this area;

5. *Invites* the Committee to consider ways in which its annual reports can contribute to this effort by bringing to the attention of the Council, in a timely manner, major developments in United Nations agencies and organizations of system-wide interest, as well as steps taken by the Committee and its subsidiary machinery to enhance system-wide effectiveness, particularly as a follow-up to recommendations and directives of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

6. *Takes note* of the decision adopted by the Administrative Committee on Coordination at its regular session of 1999 on United Nations staff security and safety,[2] and requests all States and organizations of the United Nations system to extend their full support to its objectives;

7. *Invites* the Administrative Committee on Coordination to give special attention, in its annual overview report for 1999, to progress being made towards system-wide coordinated management of information, including the role and contribution of its Information Systems Coordination Committee, pursuant to recommendation B-1 of the Joint Inspection Unit report;[3]

8. *Invites* the Administrative Committee on Coordination to continue to report on its deliberations concerning the recommendations by the Joint Inspection Unit in the context of its own reporting on its functioning and methods of work;

9. *Decides* to revert, in the context of its consideration of coordination questions, including the Administrative Committee on Coordination annual overview reports, to the follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and the related comments of the Committee in the light of the outcome of further intergovernmental deliberations thereon, including by the governing bodies of the specialized agencies.

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[2] See ACC/1999/20, annex

[3] See A/54/288, annex, executive summary

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Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 13 (a)
Economic and environmental questions: sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the Council as a result of informal consultations

Report of the Committee for Development Policy

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1998/46 of 31 July 1998, wherein it decided that the Council should decide on an appropriate work programme for the Committee for Development Policy,

Recalling its resolution 1998/39 of 30 July 1998 on the status of the least developed countries and decision 1999/290 of 26 October 1999 on consideration of the graduation of Maldives from the list of the least developed countries,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 46/206 of 20 December 1991 and 52/210 of 18 December 1997 on the report of the Committee for Development Planning,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its first session,[1] the views contained therein regarding the criteria for the identification of the least developed countries and the recognition that vulnerability should be explicitly taken into account in the identification criteria for the least developed countries;[2]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate an expert group meeting of members of the Committee for Development Policy in January/February 2000 in order to enable them to carry out the necessary diagnostic testing and simulations of the proposed criteria for the designation of least developed country status, in particular the economic vulnerability index (EVI), as contained in annex II of the report of the Committee, and to report to the Committee at its second session, in April 2000;

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 13* (E/1999/33).
[2] Ibid., para. 117.

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3. *Requests* the expert group to review and analyse the format and content of the "vulnerability profiles" developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as identified in chapter III, section F, of the report of the Committee;

4. *Requests*, in this context, the Committee for Development Policy to continue its dialogue with other international organizations working on vulnerability issues, and encourages these organizations to communicate their views on the proposed economic vulnerability index to the Committee;

5. *Also requests* the Committee for Development Policy, on the basis of the report of the expert group, to recommend, as appropriate, revised criteria for the identification of the least developed countries for the consideration of the Council as soon as possible, but no later than its substantive session of 2000, so that the review and decision on the list of the least developed countries can be completed by the end of 2000;

6. *Requests* the Committee for Development Policy to include in its report to be submitted to the Council in 2000 its views on the theme for the high-level segment of the Council in 2000, namely "Development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy";

7. *Further requests* the Committee for Development Policy, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/__, [A/C.2/54/L.63] to collaborate in the preparation of a draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium.